

A

REVIEW

OF THE

STATE

OF THE

BRITISH NATION.

Tuesday, June 29. 1708.

I Have been taking Notice of our omitting returning Thanks to GOD, upon the Subject of his late Goodness to us in the Affair of the *French* Invasion, and really it is not so much, that I pretend to tell you when you should keep solemn Days, and when not; nor are your solemn Days kept with such Seriousness, as should make any Body fond of their too great Frequency; your Fasts, and especially your Thanksgivings being generally turned into Days of Luxury and Riot, instead of Humility and Acknowledgements.

I wonder, Gentlemen, whether the *Ni-nevites* kept their Day of Humiliation, as you do or no—And if they had, *what think you*, would GOD have repented of his fierce Wrath, and delay'd his Vengeance 40 Years for them, as he did?

But my original Design in this was principally, if possible, to open your Eyes to the Deliverance it self, and to let you know, for I really think half this Nation still ignorant of *what we were deliver'd from* in that Affair; they have not due Impressions of either the Danger they were in, the Mischief that threatned, or the Safety they now enjoy—And I'll compound with the World for this; let me but bring them to be sensible of what they were saved from, and if they won't thank GOD for it, or do not think the Boun sufficient, let them stay till he pleases to trust them with more Deliverances, which, when they look back upon their extraordinary Behaviour, as to the last, they cannot have Reason to expect RIGHT QUICKLY.

And

And yet I am not chiming in now with our Malecontents, who, because we have not beaten the *French* upon the first Sight, will have it that we shall not beat them at all, and that this Campaign will be worn out to as little Purpose as the last, *and the like*. From whence come the Cries that the War is protracted, the Nation exhausted, and the *French* will be our Masters.

It is true, Gentlemen, your Generals are answerable for Integrity, Bravery, and the Duty of good Officers, and if they omit their Duty, they are liable to your Resentment; and I heartily wish, the *Negligent*, the *Cowardly*, or the *Treacherous*, if such there are among them, were singled out, and *had their Reward*—But I never knew till now, that our Generals were answerable for Victory: If I mistake not, in former Times, about as long ago as the BIBLE, *that antiquated out-of-date-Book with you*, was wrote, GOD Almighty reserv'd that Part of the War, we call Victory, in his own Hands, and gave it as he thought fit, *sometimes* to the Few against the Many, the Weak against the Strong, the Contemptible against the Terrible, the Effeminate against the Brave, the Rash against the Prudent, *and the like*: But where-as he may, *at least as some Peoples Actions suggest*, have since given that Power out of his Hands, or perhaps had it taken from him by Force, *for they are equally probable*; it may indeed in such a Case be entrusted in the Hands of some mortal Power, but that this Power should be in any of our Generals, does not appear to me; therefore I cannot agree, that an *English* General ought to be hang'd, because he does not conquer.

Indeed a great Deal of our Impatience on the Subject of Victory lies in these Particulars.

1. *Our Want of Victory*—And yet a great many People are fond of making that Want of Victory appear greater than it is, and cry it up to an absolute Necessity both of Victory, and of having it just now too, or that we are undone: I believe, we want Victory, and I know it, and that we want it very much too; but I must say still, we are not quite undone, if we should want

it another Year; especially if we will be pleased but to be Friends with one another, and not undo our selves on purpose to make our Words good.

And here let me remind our People, who are furiously forming new Divisions among us, they may not be aware, what Breaches they are making in our Strength; GOD grant, that at the Door of their new Contentions a worse and more dangerous Army at home than the *French* in *Flanders* may not enter like a Flood; *of which hereafter*.

2. *Our Ignorance*, I mean, our wilful Ignorance of the Difficulties that obstruct it, such as the Numbers of the Enemy, the Backwardness of Friends, the jarring Interests to separated Prospects, and the various Views of things, which every Party have before them, which makes it impossible to get Armies meet, Troops march, Funds be supply'd, Quota's furnish'd, and consequently to get the best concerted Measures executed—How shall Generals act, Battles be fought, or Victories won, if these Obstructions are in the way, and what Struggles our greatest Generals have had in this Case, and how impossible it has been for the greatest Genius in the World to execute their well-laid Projects? If you do not know—Go ask Prince Lewis of Baden, whose Ghost, if you could speak to it, would tell you, that no greater Misfortune can befall a Man of Honour, than to command the Troops of the Empire; But not to send you to the Dead, go ask the Elector of *Hannover*, whose Probity, Interest or Capacity no Body can taint in this Cause, and see what Difficulty his Electoral Highness meets with, to bring Quota's to the Military Chest, Troops from the Circles, Princes and Cities; *some* will not, *some* cannot, and *some* do not; and what can the best General in the World do in such a Case?—And this gives the *French* Advantage over you, makes them be in the Field before you, and prevents the Victories, a close Pursuit of the War, and a warm Application would furnish to us. I could descend to the particular Disappointments of this very Campaign, notwithstanding all which, we see the Confederates in a fair Way

Way to take the King of France by the Beard still. But of this another time.

3. A great Deal of our Impatience is owing to our Ignorance, of what is or is not a Victory.

You may frequently gain a Victory without fighting a Battle; the famous Retreat of Prince Vaudemont in Flanders, when the Siege of Namure was formed, was a Victory, and a Victory of no small Consequence I assure you; the bringing the Army off whole from the Siege of Thoulon was a Victory; the saving Nimiguen, and the open Country of Over Yssel in the Year after the Battle of Blenheim was a Victory; and the French avoiding a Battle last Year, and yet preserving their Country from our Army, was a Victory in them; and it may be possible to give a Crowd of Instances to this Purpose.

But nothing will serve us but downright fighting and overthrowing, carrying all before us, and tearing all to pieces; and if this be not done, then we are for tearing one another to pieces, to see where the Fault lies — But this is a long Scene to enquire into, and you shall hear more of it quickly; mean time will you be pleased to have a little Patience, and I warrant you in a little time, abroad or at home, on one side or on the other, among the Men of War or the Men of Peace, in foreign Feud or home Feud, in the War of the Sword, or of the Head, in fighting or caballing; two Months shall not pass over your Heads, but you shall hear of a Victory — And therefore pray, Gentlemen, have a little Patience.

ADVERTISEMENT S.

Edinburgh, June 16. 1708.

There having been an Advertisement publish'd in the Flying-Post, of the 8th of June, in the Name of Mr. Alexander Mackay of Pelgown, which if he has any Meaning at all in it, may for ought any Body may know, signifie some one, or other, or all of the following Particulars.

1. That the said Mr. Mackay had a Design to stand Member of Parliament for the Shire of Kirkcudbright, where, as the Advertise-

ment says, he was in a very fair way to be chosen.

2. The said Mr. Mackay was taken up, among several other Gentlemen, on Suspicion of being concern'd in, or abetting to the late French Invasion; or, as per the Warrant, on Suspicion of treasonable Practices.

3. That Mr. Mackay thinks himself perfectly innocent of any such Practices, and that he ought not to have been taken up, and that the Disappointment of his Election, which had otherwise been made, is a great Grief to him.

4. And Lastly, that he is willing all the World should know of this, to which end he caused insert it in the Flying-Post.

The Author of this Advertisement lets him know, that he is very sorry for Mr. Mackay's Disappointment, and wishes him well out of his Troubles; but thinks himself oblig'd to give him Advice to practise more Patience under it, towards the several Parties he would seem to reflect on, both in that Advertisement and in his private Discourse.

1. The Government, who, if they had Information of any ill Practices, which he might have been guilty of, whether that Information was true or false, had good Reasons to take him up, Her Majesty being highly justified to the World, as well as authorized by Parliament, in taking up, in such a time of Danger, all Persons there was the least Reason to suspect; among whom, 'tis not at all doubted, and it's hop'd, Mr. Mackay will not take it for a Reflection, there were several as innocent as he.

2. It is presum'd, Mr. Mackay cannot have the least Thought of a Reflection on the E. of Leven, unless he would suggest, that his Lordship caus'd him to be taken up upon his own private Authority, without express Orders from the Government; and this Mr. Mackay cannot suggest, since for his Satisfaction he was shown the Warrant from the QUEEN for his being apprehended, with which he declared he was fully satisfied, and promised that when he publish'd the Advertisement, that the World has now seen, he would acknowledge it, and which it is not doubted he will upon Recollection acknowledge, as well as the other Civilities which he received from that Honourable Person, such as confining him to his Chamber only, instead of the Tolbooth, and all the courteous Usage that consisteth with his Duty.

3. The Informers against him; and in these it seems he has been something at a Loss, since he had the Misfortune to fix it upon one Gentleman, who has since waited on him in his Confinement, and given him such Hints of his Mistake, as will oblige him to be careful of wronging his Friends another time.

What

What other Grounds of Reflection Mr. Mackay has to publish, or upon whom his Advertisement is design'd to complain, or how it is the least Vindication to him, the Author of this Advertisement professing himself wholly ignorant, waits a farther Explanation of from himself; and at present he thinks himself oblig'd so note, that to him it seems,

1. *That the Government thought they had good Reason to suspect him, and consequently to take him up.*
2. *That the General, to whom the Warrant for apprehending him was directed, executed it with all the Courtesie and Civility to him, that was in his Power to do.*
3. *That as for Informers, it does not yet appear, that any Malice has been practis'd upon him, and he himself has not been able, it seems, to point out the Man.*

What else his Advertisement can signifie, other than to let the World know, he design'd to be a Parliament Man, is left to Time to discover.

For the Payment of King William,
King James, and King Charles's
Debts.

THose who have Met, do Resolve to Proceed by the Method Proposed, which they hope cannot fail of Success, if not baffled by delay of the Persons concern'd, to unite their Interest. They that do not meet and Incourage the Proceedings, may never expect another such Opportunity.

There is much work to do before the sitting of the Parliament, and none can be in disburse above one Shilling on a hundred Pounds to try the Issue.

They Intend to meet to Morrow, at the House on the Right hand going up to the Parliament House in Old Pallace Yard, Westminster; and will continue so to do, on Munday, Wednesdays, and Frydays in the Afternoons.

THE Famous LOZENGES, being effectual in all Scorbutick Cases; they ease Pains in the Head and Stomach, cause a good Appetite, purifie the Blood, and give speedy Relief in Rheumatisms, Dropsie, and Gout, and totally destroy the very Seed of Worms.

They cure Agues and Fevers of all Sorts, give present Ease in the Cholick, Stone and Gravel, cleanse the Body after hard Drinking; as also after the Small-Pox, Measles, and Child-bearing, and are a more general Cathartick Medicine than any yet known.

Prepar'd only by R. Owner, Apothecary, at the Pestle and Mortar, in East Smithfield.

AFamous Lithonriptick Electuary, compounded of Chymical Preparations, and peculiarly specified not only to cure a Fit of the Stone and Gravel, but also to destroy and eradicate the very Essence, or cause thereof, so as that it will not return again; It infallibly breaks and dissolves the hardest Stone in the Kidnies or Bladder, to a Miracle, brings it, with Gravel, Sand and Slime, easily and visibly away with Urine; gives perfect ease in a Minute, in the most torturing Pains of that Distemper, to Admiration; instantly removes all Stoppage, Heat, and sharpness of Urine, cleanses the passages of the slimy calculous matter, which by lodging therein, produces the Stone; and so absolutely performs an effectual perfect Cure, with such ease and safety, and so soon, that one would be apt to think it was done by immediate Divine Assistance: In a thousand Experiments it has not been known to fail. Is sold only at Mr. Spooner's at the Golden half Moon in Buckle street Goodman's Fields, near White Chappel, at 3 s. a Pot with Directions.



BARTLETT's Inventions for the Cure of Ruptures, which have gain'd so Universal Esteem, are now, yet farther Improv'd to so great a Nicety, that one of his Steel Spring Trusses of the largest Size, seldom Exceeds 4 ounces in Weight, and one of the smallest rarely exceeds a quarter of an Ounce, and are so well adapted to the shapes of human Bodies, that they are extraordinary easy even to Infants of a Day Old, and Intirely keep up the Ruptures of what Bigness soever. Also divers Instruments to help the Weak and Crooked. By P. Bartlett at the Golden Ball by the Ship Tavern in Prescot Street in Goodmans Fields, London.

NOTE, He forges and finishes his Trusses himself, by which means he daily Improves his Inventions.

